Acquiring tuna long liners by CIFNET

3988., DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Institute of Fisheries Nautical and Engineering Training (CIFNET) has asked for the purchase of 04 tuna long liners at a cost of Rs. 100 crores to train Indian crew;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that CIFNET has a number of tuna boats at present at Cochin Port;

(d) if so, the number of such tuna long liners presently available with CIFNET; and

(e) the reasons and needs for CIFNET to acquire more tuna long liner fishing vessels for training?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) The Government has accorded approval to acquire one Monofilament Long Lining cum Trawling Fishery Training Vessel by CIFNET at an estimated cost of Rs. 20.00 crore.

(c) and (d) One combination vessel *i.e.* Trawler Cum Tuna Multifilament Long Liner constructed in Japan during 1980 is available at Kochi for imparting practical training to the candidates. The other two training vessels available at Chennai and Vizag are trawlers.

(e) The new training vessel for CIFNET is required in replacement of one of the existing old vessels for imparting practical training on different fishing methods including tuna longlining.

Agri-policy for rainfed areas

3989. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total land under cultivation in the country and out of this, how much land in percentage is rainfed which depends upon vagaries of monsoon;